



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# **U.S. ATTORNEY DECLINES TO PROSECUTE JIM IRVIN**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney Paul K. Charlton announced his decision to not file federal criminal charges against Arizona Corporation Commissioner Jim Irvin. This decision was based on a thorough review of the facts related to the aborted merger efforts of Southern Union Gas Company to acquire Southwest Gas Corporation.

The United States Attorney's decision took into account evidence obtained prior to the civil trial related to the failed merger, evidence obtained during the civil trial, and evidence obtained after the civil verdict. Mr. Charlton said that the civil action and verdict did not result in a finding of fraud and that we find no prosecutable federal criminal offense.

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